HEALTH

Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year 1947.

A. McINNES, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

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Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council

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Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council

Chairman of the Council A. Fletton, Esq.
Vice-Chairman of the Council W. Woodin, Esq.
Chairman, Public Health Committee L. Baxter, Esq.
Vice-Chairman, Public Health Committee W. G. Brown, Esq.

———o———

Clerk of the Council H. H. Hassall.

———o———

Public Health Officers.

Medical Officer of Health A. McInnes, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Sanitary Inspectors S. Pargeter, C.R.S.I.
B. Lewis, M.R.S.I., A.I.Hsg.

———o———

Surveyor and Water Engineer F. T. Jennings, A.I.A.S.

Council Offices,

Thrapston,

Kettering.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

The Annual Report for 1947 on the health of the district is given herewith. The report is largely statistical. The Birth rate exceeds the Death rate as 17:10 and the Infantile Mortality rate is very low at 16.3 per 1,000 births. The first indicates a reasonable natural increment, that the death rate is reasonably low and that the population is reasonably virile. The low infant death rate might suggest that the motherhood of the district is intelligent.

The incidence of Infectious Diseases is low: with the exception of one case of Dysentery, there is a complete absence of any disease associated with defective food, defective water supplies or defective sewerage. The children's diseases of Measles and Whooping Cough assume epidemic forms in cycles of 3–5 years.

Progress in Housing, extension of Water Supplies and Sewerage is determined less by the will of the Council than by the scarcity of materials and labour.

A. McINNES,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA AND STATISTICS.

Area in Acres	107,337
Population	17,460
Number of Dwellings	5,277
Rateable Value (1st October)	£69,920
Product of a Penny Rate (1st October)	£274

Live Births.

	Total.	*Male.*	*Female.*
Legitimate	346	182	164
Illegitimate	22	11	11
	368	193	175

Rate per 1,000 Population	21.08
Rate per 1,000 Population (England & Wales)	20.5

Stillbirths.

A " stillbirth " is defined—" stillbirth and stillborn shall apply to any child which has issued forth from its mother after the 28th week of pregnancy which did not at any time after being completely expelled from its mother breathe or show any other signs of life."

	Total.	*Male.*	*Female.*
Legitimate	9	5	4
Illegitimate	1	—	1
	10	5	5

Rate per 1,000 Population	0.57
Rate per 1,000 Population (England & Wales)	—

Deaths (All Causes).	*Total.*	*Male.*	*Female.*
	214	122	92

Death Rate per 1,000 Population	12.26
Death Rate per 1,000 Population (England & Wales)	12.00
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	NIL.

Infant Mortality.

Oundle and Thrapston Rural District	16.3
England and Wales	41.0

COMPARATIVE TABLES.

Death Rates.

Year.	Oundle and Thrapston.	England and Wales.	Northampton-shire.
1943	12.30	12.10	12.29
1944	12.20	11.60	12.65
1945	12.30	11.40	12.34
1946	12.80	11.50	12.00
1947	12.26	12.00	12.43

Birth Rates.

1943	17.70	16.50	17.91
1944	20.20	17.60	20.07
1945	21.40	16.10	18.98
1946	17.50	19.10	19.17
1947	21.08	20.50	20.42

Illegitimate Births.

There were 22 Illegitimate births assigned to the District in 1947 (11 males, 11 females).

Infant Mortality.

The number of infants who died before reaching their first birthday was 6 (3 males, 3 females). One of the female deaths was of an illegitimate child.

SECTION B.

GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES.

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

The Public Health Laboratory Service, Northampton, examine material submitted by general practitioners in the Area, and also carry out the bacteriological examination of water samples submitted from this district by the Sanitary Officers.

The County Laboratory carry out all examinations of milk samples by the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase Tests.

Chemical analyses of water supplies and presumptive B.Coli tests are carried out by the Public Analyst, Cambridge.

(b) Diphtheria Anti-Toxin.

A supply of anti-toxin is kept at the Council Offices at Oundle and Thrapston, the Kettering Isolation Hospital, the Rushden Sanatorium and the Doddington Road Hospital, Wellingborough.

(c) Nursing in the Home.

The arrangements are as follows :—

Villages	*Nurse*	*Telephone Number*
Apethorpe, King's Cliffe, Nassington, Woodnewton, Yarwell	Windross	King's Cliffe 237
Aldwincle, Clapton, Lilford, Lowick, Pilton, Thorpe Achurch, Titchmarsh, Wadenhoe ...	Duffett	Clapton 22
Ashton, Barnwell, Benefield, Cotterstock, Fotheringhay, Glapthorne, Hemington, Luddington, Lutton, Polebrooke, Southwick, Stoke Doyle, Tansor, Thurning, Warmington	Cates & Missen	Oundle 3196
Brigstock, Sudborough	Gallagher	—
Bulwick, Blatherwycke, Deene, Deenethorpe, Fineshade, Harringworth, Laxton, Wakerley	Gibbs	Bulwick 207
Collyweston, Duddington, Easton-on-the-Hill	Bryce	Stamford 2271
Chelveston	Whiter	Rushden 2810
Hargrave	Fitzjohn Swingler	Raunds 43
Denford, Great Addington, Islip, Little Addington, Ringstead, Slipton, Thrapston, Twywell, Woodford	Elkington Mansbridge Mowbray	Thrapston 134 Thrapston 57 Raunds 149

(d) Ambulances.

The scheme of ambulance services now available under the National Health Service Act is :—

Islip Ambulance.—Aldwincle, Clapton, Denford, Islip, Lowick, Sudborough, Slipton, Thrapston, Titchmarsh, Thorpe, Twywell, Woodford.

Oundle Ambulance.—Ashton, Apethorpe, Barnwell, Benefield, Cotterstock, Fotheringhay, Glapthorn, Hemington, King's Cliffe, Lilford, Luddington, Lutton, Nassington, Pilton, Polebrooke, Southwick, Stoke Doyle, Tansor, Thurning, Wadenhoe, Warmington, Woodnewton, Yarwell.

Higham Ferrers Ambulance.—Chelveston-cum-Caldecott.

Irthlingborough Ambulance.—Great Addington, Little Addington.

Weldon Ambulance.—Blatherwycke, Brigstock, Bulwick, Deene, Deenethorpe, Fineshade, Harringworth, Laxton, Wakerley.

Raunds Ambulance.—Hargrave, Ringstead.

Reciprocal arrangements have been made with Kesteven County Council to supply from Stamford, the villages of Easton-on-the-Hill, Collyweston and Duddington.

Ambulance for Infectious Diseases.

Ambulances for the removal of infectious disease cases are stationed at :—

(i) Kettering Isolation Hospital. Tel. No. Kettering 3009.
(ii) Wellingborough Isolation Hospital. Tel. No. Wellingborough 2081.
(iii) Northampton, Harborough Road. Tel. No. Northampton 612.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Sewerage.

Extensions of the sewerage system have been carried out to serve new housing estates at Islip, Thrapston, Titchmarsh and Woodford.

The increased volume of sewage passing through the Thrapston Disposal plant renders it quite inadequate for present-day requirements. Surface water drainage in the Western area of the parish is also insufficient to avoid flooding of houses in that district during heavy rain.

A Ministry of Health Inquiry was held on March 4th, 1947, regarding the proposed sewerage system at King's Cliffe, and approval was later given to the scheme.

The planned extension of main water supplies into Aldwincle, Pilton, Stoke Doyle, Thorpe Achurch and Wadenhoe, will accentuate the need for adequate disposal arrangements in these parishes.

Public Cleansing.

House refuse collection by the Council was carried out during 1947 in the following parishes :—

Parish	*Interval of Collection*	*Remarks*
Thrapston	Weekly	
Woodford	,,	
Brigstock	Fortnightly	
Collyweston	,,	
Denford	,,	
Duddington	,,	
Easton-on-the-Hill	,,	
Islip	,,	
King's Cliffe	,,	
Ringstead	,,	
Aldwincle	Monthly	
Chelveston	,,	
Great Addington	,,	
Hargrave	,,	
Little Addington	,,	
Lowick	,,	
Slipton	,,	
Sudborough	,,	
Titchmarsh	,,	
Twywell	,,	
Barnwell	As necessary	(Tins, Accumulation of)
Bulwick	,,	,,
Glapthorne	,,	,,
Hemington	,,	,,
Nassington	,,	,,
Southwick	,,	,,

Satisfactory containers (dust bins) can only be provided on a limited scale due to scarcity of materials.

Water Supply.

The two Regional Schemes at Woodford and Barnwell have provided a satisfactory supply of water for 23 of the 51 parishes. During the year 15 samples of these supplies were submitted for chemical and bacteriological analysis, 13 being satisfactory and 2 being reported upon by the Public Analyst as unsafe for drinking purposes. These latter adverse reports in March and April were due to exceptional flooding in the Nene Valley. During this short period the public were advised to boil all water used for domestic purposes.

Most of the non-main private supplies in the villages are of an unsatisfactory bacteriological standard.

Water shortages occurred in the parishes of Aldwincle, Glapthorne and Thorpe Achurch where the supply is from shallow wells.

During 1947, the Ministry of Health approved in principle, schemes of water supply to the parishes of Cotterstock, Fotheringhay, Glapthorne, Nassington, Southwick, Tansor, Woodnewton, Yarwell, Thorpe Achurch, Aldwincle, Pilton, Wadenhoe and Stoke Doyle. This will provide main water for approximately an additional 15% of the population.

The following typical analysis reports are given :—

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS.

Sample of Water labelled " Tap Water, Ringstead " received on the 20th March, 1947, from Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council.

Physical Characters ...	Noticeable deposit, turbid, yellow tint, earthy odour on heating.
Reaction	pH 7.7

The sample contained :— Parts per 100,000

Chlorine	2.95
Ammonia (Free and Saline)	0.0136
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	0.0158
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37° C.	0.2129
Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen)	0.60
Nitrites	trace
Poisonous Metals	absent

Bacteriological Examination.

Coliform organisms present in 1 × 50 mls.
Coliform organisms present in 5 out of 5 × 10 mls.
Coliform organisms present in 4 out of 5 × 1 ml.
Probable number of B. Coli in 100 mls. = 160
Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 37° C. = 180
Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 21° C. = over 1000

Microscopical Examination of Deposit.

Mineral matter, organic debris and some diatoms.

Total Hardness. 13.8 degrees (grains per gallon).

Inference.—The results obtained on the analysis of this sample indicate a water contaminated with organic matter and with micro-organisms of sewage type.

I am of opinion that this water as evidenced by the sample is unfit for drinking purposes.

S. GREENBURGH,
Public Analyst.

24th March, 1947.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS.

Sample of Water labelled " Well at Thrapston *before* chlorination " received on the 25th March, from Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council.

Physical Characters	Good
Reaction	pH 7.3

The sample contained :— Parts per 100,000

Chlorine	2.65
Ammonia (Free and Saline)	absent
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	0.0008
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37° C.	0.0378
Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen)	0.55
Nitrites	absent
Poisonous Metals	absent

Bacteriological Examination.

Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.
Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 37° C. = 4
Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 21° C. = 48

Microscopical Examination of Deposit.

None.

Total Hardness.—19.96 degrees (grains per gallon).

Inference.—The results obtained on the analysis of this sample indicate a hard water containing little organic matter though slightly contaminated with micro-organisms capable of development at blood heat and at the temperature of the " cool " incubator.

I am of opinion that this water as evidenced by the sample is safe for drinking purposes.

S. GREENBURGH,
Public Analyst.

31st March, 1947.

REPORT

on the

Bacteriological examination of a sample of Water labelled " Tap in Market Road, Thrapston, *after* chlorination " received on the 25th March, 1947, from Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council.

The following results were obtained :—
Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.
Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 37° C.=*nil*
Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 21° C.=*nil*

Remarks.—The above results may be considered satisfactory for a public water supply.

S. GREENBURGH,
Public Analyst.

31st March, 1947.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS.

Sample of Water labelled " Woodford Boreholes *after* filtration " received on the 3rd April, 1947, from Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council.

Physical Characters ...	Very slight deposit, very faintly turbid, odourless
Reaction	pH 7.4
The sample contained :—	Parts per 100,000
Chlorine	3.55
Ammonia (Free and Saline)	absent
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	0.0066
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37° C.	0.0954
Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen)	0.50
Nitrites	absent
Poisonous Metals	absent

Bacteriological Examination.

Coliform organisms present in 1 ×50 mls.
Coliform organisms present in 3 out of 5 × 10 mls.
Coliform organisms present in 3 out of 5 × 1 ml.
Probable number of B. Coli in 100 mls.=18
Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 37° C.=17+mould
Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 21° C.=650

Microscopical Examination of Deposit.

Mineral matter, diatoms and algal spores.

Total Hardness.—18.0 degrees (grains per gallon).

Inference.—The results obtained on the analysis of this sample indicate a water slightly contaminated with organic matter and fairly heavily contaminated with coliform organisms and micro-organisms capable of development at the temperature of the " cool " incubator.

I am of opinion that this water is unsafe for drinking purposes.

It is to be recommended that steps be taken to make filtration more effective and that the supply be chlorinated.

S. GREENBURGH,
Public Analyst.

8th April, 1947.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS.

Sample of Water labelled " Woodford Supply *after* filtration and chlorination, taken from tap in Great Addington Parish " received on the 21st April, 1947. from Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council.

Physical Characters	Good
Reaction	pH 7.5
The sample contained :—	Parts per 100,000
Chlorine	3.75
Ammonia (Free and Saline)	absent
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	0.0068
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37° C.	0.0990
Nitrates	absent
Nitrites	absent
Poisonous Metals	absent

Bacteriological Examination.

Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.
Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 37° C.=*nil*
Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 21° C.=45

Microscopical Examination of Deposit.
None.

Total Hardness.—17.8 degrees (grains per gallon).

Inference.—The results obtained on the analysis of this sample indicate a water slightly contaminated with organic matter which however does not appear to be of a harmful nature.

I am of opinion that this water is fit for drinking purposes. It is to be recommended however that the rate of chlorination be slightly increased.

S. GREENBURGH,
Public Analyst.

29th April, 1947.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS.

Sample of Water labelled " Raw Water before filtration and chlorination, taken from No. 1 Well, Woodford Pumping Station " received on the 20th May, 1947, from Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council.

Physical Characters ...	Very slight deposit, otherwise good
Reaction	pH 7.5
The sample contained :—	Parts per 100,000
Chlorine	5.1
Ammonia (Free and Saline)	absent
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	0.0048
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37° C.	0.0561
Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen)	0.05
Nitrites	absent
Poisonous Metals	absent

Bacteriological Examination.
Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.
Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 37° C.=2+mould
Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 21° C.=14

Microscopical Examination of Deposit.
Mineral matter and a little organic debris.

Total Hardness. 18.66 degrees (grains per gallon).

Inference.—The results obtained on the analysis of this sample do not show any evidences of pollution with harmful organic or inorganic matter.

I am of opinion that this water as evidenced by the sample is safe for drinking purposes. Chlorination of this supply however is to be recommended.

S. GREENBURGH,
Public Analyst.

27th May, 1947.

REPORT
on the

Bacteriological examination of a sample of Water labelled " Woodford Water Supply after mechanical filtration and manual chlorination. Taken from a tap at Great Addington " received on the 20th May, 1947, from Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council.

The following results were obtained :—
Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.
Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 37° C.=*nil*
Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 21° C.=4

Remarks.—The above results may be considered satisfactory for a public water supply.

S. GREENBURGH,
Public Analyst.

27th May, 1947.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS.

Sample of Water labelled " Regional Supply No. 2 (Untreated, No. 2 Station) " received on the 2nd April, 1947, from Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council.

Physical Characters	Good
Reaction	pH 7.5
The sample contained :—	Parts per 100,000
Chlorine	5.2
Ammonia (Free and Saline)	0.0112
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	0.0074
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37° C.	0.0891
Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen)	0.10
Nitrites	absent
Poisonous Metals	absent

Bacteriological Examination.

Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.
Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 37° C.=10
Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 21° C.=620

Microscopical Examination of Deposit.

None.

Total Hardness. 20.68 degrees (grains per gallon).

Inference.—The results obtained on the analysis of this sample indicate a hard water slightly contaminated with organic matter and with micro-organisms capable of development at blood heat, and fairly heavily contaminated with micro-organisms capable of development at the temperature of the " cool " incubator.

Whilst this water cannot be considered unfit for drinking, it is not up to the standard expected of a public supply. Chlorination of the supply is to be recommended.

S. GREENBURGH,
Public Analyst.

8th April, 1947.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS.

Sample of Water labelled " Regional Supply No. 2 (Treated) No. 1 Station " received on the 2nd April, 1947, from Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council.

Physical Characters	Good
Reaction	pH 7.4
The sample contained :—	Parts per 100,000
Chlorine	4.25
Ammonia (Free and Saline)	absent
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	0.0090
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37° C.	0.0624
Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen)	0.45
Nitrites	absent
Poisonous Metals	absent

Bacteriological Examination.

Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.
Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 37° C.=*nil*
Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 21° C.=4

Microscopical Examination of Deposit. None.

Total Hardness. 20.12 degrees (grains per gallon).

Inference.—The results obtained on the analysis of this sample do not show any evidences of pollution with harmful organic or inorganic matter.

I am of opinion that this water is fit for drinking purposes.

S. GREENBURGH,
Public Analyst.

8th April, 1947.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS.

Sample of Water labelled " Regional Water Supply No. 2 (Treated) " received on the 19th November, 1947, from Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council.

Physical Characters	Good
Reaction	pH 7.2
The sample contained :—	Parts per 100,000
Chlorine	5.5
Ammonia (Free and Saline)	0.0004
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	0.0010
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37° C.	0.0264
Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen)	0.15
Nitrites	absent
Poisonous Metals	absent

Bacteriological Examination.

Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.
Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 37° C.=*nil*
Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 21° C.=*nil*

Microscopical Examination of Deposit. None.

Total Hardness. 19.48 degrees (grains per gallon).

Inference.—The results obtained on the analysis of this sample do not show any evidences of pollution with harmful organic or inorganic matter.

I am of opinion that this water is fit for drinking purposes.

S. GREENBURGH,
Public Analyst.

24th November, 1947.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS.

Sample of Water labelled " King's Cliffe Water Supply " received on the 25th February, 1947, from Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council.

Physical Characters	Good
Reaction	pH 7.2
The sample contained :—	Parts per 100,000
Chlorine	4.2
Ammonia (Free and Saline)	absent
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	0.0018
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37° C.	0.0303
Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen)	0.40
Nitrites	absent
Poisonous Metals	absent

Bacteriological Examination.

Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.

Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 37° C.=*nil*

Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 21° C.=*nil*

Microscopical Examination of Deposit.

None.

Total Hardness. 20.32 degrees (grains per gallon).

Inference.—The results obtained on the analysis of this sample do not show any evidences of pollution with harmful organic or inorganic matter.

I am of opinion that this water is fit for drinking purposes.

S. GREENBURGH,

3rd March, 1947. Public Analyst.

Shops and Offices.

Routine visits under the Shops Acts and Public Health Acts were carried out during the year. No statutory action was required in any instance.

Camping Sites.

No area in the District is licensed as a site for camping purposes. Four licences authorising the use of moveable dwellings were issued.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

A privately owned swimming pool in the parish of Brigstock was opened temporarily to the public during the summer months. A nearby spring formed the source of supply, analysis of which by the Public Analyst proved to be satisfactory. The bath was not designed for permanent public use on a large scale, and ceased to be used in October, 1947.

Schools.

There are 39 Schools in the District, most being maintained in a satisfactory condition. The health circumstances of the schools at Chelveston, Aldwincle, Wadenhoe are, however, unsatisfactory. Some small improvements have been effected at Wadenhoe. The impending extension of water mains to these particular parishes will do much to improve existing conditions.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS.

Public Health Acts.

Water Supplies	171
Infectious Diseases	33
Workplaces	99
Cinemas and Public Buildings	12
Miscellaneous Premises	106

Shop Acts.

Shop Act, 1934 38

Factory Act, 1937.

1.—**Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health (made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	*Number on Register* (3)	*Number of* *Inspections* (4)	*Written notices* (5)	*Occupiers prosecuted* (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	27	38	4	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	63	64	7	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	90	102	11	—

2.—Cases in which **Defects** were found.

Particulars (1)	*Number of cases in which defects were found* *Found* (3)	*Remedied* (4)	*Referred* *To H.M. Inspector* (5)	*By H.M. Inspector* (6)	*Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted* (7)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	5	5	—	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(*a*) Insufficient ...	2	3	—	3	—
(*b*) Unsuitable or defective ...	2	2	—	2	—
(*c*) Not separate for sexes ...	1	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	3	1	—	—	—
TOTAL	13	11	—	6	—

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

The urgent need for satisfactory housing accommodation remains one of the major problems of the Council. This is brought to focus by (a) the number of applicants for houses built by the Authority, (b) the number of houses found to be unfit for human habitation in the survey of housing conditions carried out during 1947.

The Council have a total of 396 houses administered under the various Acts, of which, 40 are prefabricated. In addition, redundant

service camps have been taken over and converted to provide accommodation for 48 family units, 21 families have been rehoused under requisition powers.

The post-war Housing development up to the end of the year was :—

Number of Houses Approved	176
Number of Houses under Construction	106
Number of Houses Completed	29

The administration of Housing Acts, and the consequent repairs and improvements to dwellings, were considerably restricted as the result of shortages of materials and labour. Statutory action was taken by the Council in respect of 3 cottages which were unfit for human habitation, an undertaking being accepted under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.

The standard of cleanliness and up-keep by tenants of Council Houses is generally satisfactory, and the few cases of neglect in this direction have been remedied. The Council's Surveyor has, with his limited labour and materials, been able to carry out much necessary repair work.

The following is a Summary of housing work carried out during the year :—

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	846
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose...	920
2. (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925/32	417
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose...	544
3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	3
4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	264

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	81

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A. Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
2. Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	—
(b) By local authority in default of owners	—
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	—
2. Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	—
(b) By local authority in default of owners	—
C. Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made, or an undertaking accepted	3
2. Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	—
D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
1. Number of separate tenement or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made	—
2. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—

4. Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding.

No detailed overcrowding survey was carried out during the year.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Due control was exercised over food premises during 1947. Improvements in standards of food-preparing places cannot be carried out on a sufficient scale until the supply position of necessary materials such as washing-up sinks, hot water installations and other essentials, is eased.

Milk Supply and Control.

The transfer to the Ministry of Agriculture, of the control of milk production at the farms, did not, as was intended, take place in 1947.

Experience has shown that the public health control of milk may best be directed by local authorities, provided they are given sufficient administrative powers. The dual enforcement of requirements does not appear to be conducive to satisfactory results.

Total number of Dairies on the Register	206
Dairies producing Tuberculin Tested Milk	35
Dairies producing Accredited Milk	33

The results of samples taken in 1947 were :—

Number of Samples.	*Good.*	*Moderate.*	*Bad.*
125 ...	78 ...	22 ...	25

Of the 5 samples of Pasteurised Milk examined by the phosphatase test, 3 were Satisfactory, indicating efficient pasteurisation, and 2 were Unsatisfactory, indicating either inadequate heat treatment or the presence of raw milk.

Meat and Foods Inspection.

The slaughter of animals has continued to be centralised in the Ministry of Food abattoirs at Peterborough, Kettering and Rushden. The bulk transport of meat into this District by wholesalers is unsatisfactory. The vehicles are generally overloaded, insulation is inadequate, meat is not suspended during transit, and the clothing worn by personnel delivering meat to retail butchers is unsuitable. No unsound meat has been offered for sale in this area, all inspections being carried out by the respective Sanitary Inspectors at the abattoirs.

Unsound Food from Local Shops.

Meat	48½ lbs.
Tinned Meat	19¼ lbs.
Bacon	21½ lbs.
Fish	802 lbs.
Cheese	19 lbs.
Biscuits	180 lbs.
Miscellaneous Foods	35½ lbs.
Total Weight ...	10 cwts. 5 lbs. 12 ozs.

Food and Drugs Act Inspections.

Dairies	295
Slaughterhouses	9
Bakehouses	38
Food-preparing places, etc.	144
Ice-cream premises	35
Miscellaneous	74

The bacteriological examination of food is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Northampton.

Ice-Cream.

There are 6 producers in the district, 14 retailers and numerous travelling vendors coming from outside the area of the Council.

All ice-cream manufactured in the district is by the " complete cold mix " process, there being no heat treatment plants in operation.

Unsatisfactory bacteriological reports were received early in the year, and the necessary steps taken, and advice given, to eliminate risks of contamination. Much remains to be done to bring premises up to the standards required by the Food and Drugs Act 1938. Restricted supplies of materials have limited the action taken during 1947. Effective co-operation has been maintained with the trade, who have shown no desire other than to produce a pure article of food under satisfactory conditions.

The following bacteriological reports on ice-cream samples are given :—

Coliform bacillis MacConkey 2 days at 37° C.	*Faecal coli MacConkey 2 days at 44° C.*	*Bacteriological Plate Count.*
per c.c.	**per c.c.**	**per c.c.**
8	0	56,000
1800+	80	120,000,000
1600+	2	350,000
35	5	280,000
(Dried egg used in manufacture).		Sterile
0	0	10,000
600	7	15,000
1600	0	120,000
0	0	20,000
350	0	120,000

Food Supervision.

Following are details of food premises in the District :—

Butchers	31
General Food Shops	86
Inns (Catering)	25
Restaurants and Cafes	14
Fish Friers	7
Canteens	22
School Canteens	3
	188

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

During 1947, two epidemics occurred throughout the country, namely, Acute Polio-myelitis and Measles. The number of cases of Measles notified during the year was 179. No cases of Acute Polio-myelitis (Infantile Paralysis) occurred in the District.

The following tables indicate the nature of the various diseases, and the Parishes of origin :—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

1947.

Parish	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Measles	Whooping Cough	Polio Encephalitis	Puerperal Pyrexia	Dysentery
Aldwincle	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Apethorpe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ashton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barnwell	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Benefield	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
Blatherwycke	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brigstock	—	—	—	—	17	—	—	—	—
Bulwick	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	1
Chelveston	—	—	—	1	12	—	—	—	—
Clapton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Collyweston	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	—	—
Cotterstock	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Deene	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deenethorpe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Denford	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	—
Duddington	—	—	—	1	23	—	—	1	—
Easton-on-the-Hill	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	—	—
Fineshade	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—
Fotheringhay	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Glapthorn	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—
Great Addington	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Hargrave	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	—
Harringworth	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	—	—
Hemington	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Islip	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
King's Cliffe	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—
Laxton	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lilford-cum-Wigsthorpe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Little Addington	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—
Lowick	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Luddington	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lutton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nassington	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—
Pilton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polebrook	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	—	—
Ringstead	—	—	2	—	15	1	—	—	—
Southwick	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Slipton	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Stoke Doyle	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sudborough	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—
Tansor	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thorpe Achurch	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Thrapston	4	—	9	1	8	11	—	—	—
Thurning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Titchmarsh	2	—	1	—	5	2	—	—	—
Twywell	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Wadenhoe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wakerley	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Warmington	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Woodford	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—
Woodnewton	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—
Yarwell	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	8	—	16	4	179	42	—	2	1

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.
(Other than Tuberculosis) 1947.

Disease	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Scarlet Fever ...	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	1	2	1
Measles	35	9	3	12	70	2	8	12	1	10	12	5
Whooping Cough	5	6	1	2	2	—	1	4	—	—	15	6
Pneumonia ...	4	5	2	3	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Erysipelas ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	45	21	6	17	75	2	9	19	2	14	30	12

The Registered Causes of Death were :—

		Male	*Female*	*Total*
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—
2.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—
3.	Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough	—	—	—
5.	Diphtheria...	—	—	—
6.	Tuberculosis—Respiratory	2	3	5
7.	Tuberculosis—Other Forms	1	—	1
8.	Syphilitic Diseases	1	—	1
9.	Influenza	3	—	3
10.	Measles	—	—	—
11.	Acute Poliomyelitis : Polio Encephalitis ...	—	—	—
12.	Acute Infectious Encephalitis	—	—	—
13.	Cancer of Buccal Cavity & Oesophagus ...	—	—	—
14.	Cancer of Stomach & Duodenum	4	1	5
15.	Cancer of Breast	—	4	4
16.	Cancer of all other Sites	8	6	14
17.	Diabetes	1	2	3
18.	Inter-Cranial Vascular Lesion	18	16	34
19.	Heart Disease	26	24	50
20.	Other Diseases of Circulation	3	1	4
21.	Bronchitis	12	2	14
22.	Pneumonia	5	3	8
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases	1	2	3
24.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	1	1	2
25.	Diarrhoea	—	—	—
26.	Appendicitis	—	2	2
27.	Other Digestive Disorders	1	1	2
28.	Nephritis	6	3	9
29.	Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis	—	—	—
30.	Other Maternal Causes	—	—	—
31.	Premature Birth	—	2	2
32.	Congenital Malformation : Birth Injury, Infantile Disorder ...	2	1	3
33.	Suicide	2	—	2
34.	Road Traffic Accidents	—	—	—
35.	Other Violent Causes	5	2	7
36.	All other Causes	20	16	36
		122	92	214

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

ANNUAL RETURN FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1947.

Welfare Authority: Northants. County Council.

I. Immunisation In Relation To Child Population.

Number of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1947.

Age at 31.12.47..... *i.e.* Born in Year.....	Under 1 1947	1 1946	2 1945	3 1944	4 1943	5 to 9 1938–1942	10 to 14 1933–1937	Total under 15
Number Immunised	8	178	212	232	219	1173	1290	3312
Estimated mid-year child population 1947	Children under five 1540					Children 5–14 2290		

II. Diphtheria Notifications and Deaths In Relation To Immunisation.

Deaths are those finally registered in the Authority's area after allowing for inward and outward transfers.

Notifications.			Deaths.		
Age at Date of Notification	Number of cases Notified	Number of cases included in preceding column in which the child had completed a full course of immunisation	Age at date of Death	Number of Deaths	Number of cases included in preceding column in which the child had completed a full course of immunisation
Under 1	0	—	Under 1	0	—
1	0	—	1	0	—
2	0	—	2	0	—
3	0	—	3	0	—
4	0	—	4	0	—
5 to 9	0	—	5 to 9	0	—
10 to 14	0	—	10 to 14	0	—
Totals	0	—	Totals	0	—

NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS, 1947.

Age Groups	*Respiratory* M.	F.	*Non-Respiratory* M.	F.
—1	—	—	—	—
—5	—	—	—	—
—15	1	—	1	—
—25	2	2	—	1
—35	—	—	—	—
—45	1	—	1	—
—55	1	—	—	—
—65	1	—	—	—
65+	—	1	—	—
Total ...	6	3	2	1

NUMBER OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS ON THE REGISTER, DECEMBER 31st, 1947.

Pulmonary			*Non-Pulmonary*		
Male	*Female*	*Total*	*Male*	*Female*	*Total*
35	29	64	11	21	32